To the vvorshipfull & his very good Frend. Maister H. S.

WHereas your worship (at my last being with you) desired mee to let you haue knowledge of the manner of the ende & confessions of BODY and SLADE, two notorious Traitours: I haue, according to my promise, sent you the true Discourse therof: For, I being present thereat (as you knowe) vpon some especial occasiõs, haue set down so neere as memorie would serue mee, the certaintie therof, which you maye be bolde to declare to your Frends for a very trueth: notwithstanding the sundry flying tales rumored abroade by the Papists, according to their accustomed manner, as their affection serueth them: I haue sent you the trueth, & nothing but the trueth, and therof you may assuredly perswade your selfe. Thus with the continuall desire of your welfare, with all yours, I commit you to the heauenly protection.

From Winchester, by your Frend to vse. R. B.

These Gentlemen and

Iustices of Peace, were present at these Executions.

M. Robert White, Highe Sheriffe of the Shiere.
Sr. William Kingsmell, Knight.
M. Iohn Fisher, Justice of Peace.
M. William Saint-Iohn, Justice of peace.
M. Thomas west, Sonne to the Lorde Delaware.
M. Frauncis Cotton, Justice of peace.
M. William Wright, Justice of peace.
M. Beniamin Touchbourne, Justice of peace.

Beside many other Gentlemen of countenaunce and credit.

THE

¶ THE EXECVTION AND

Confeſsion of Iohn Slade, an obſtinate and notorious Traitour, who was drawen hanged, and quartered for highe treaſon againſt her Maieſtie, at Wincheſter, on Wedneſday, the xxx. day of Octob. 1583.

ON Wedneſdaye, beeing the 30. of October, Iohn Slade, ſomtime a Scholemaiſter, was drawen vpon a Hurdell frō the priſon in Winchester, to the market place where the execution was appointed: and being come to the aforeſaid place, and taken off the Hurdell, he came and knæled downe by the gallowes, making a croſſe with his hande vppon one of the poaſtes therof, and kiſſed it, vſing ſilent Prayers in latine to him ſelfe. Afterward, being come vpon the ladder, he beganne in this maner. I am come hither this day to ſuffer death for my faith, what faith? no rare faith, but euen the faith that hath continued from all poſterities: Wherupon Sir William Kingſmell Knight, ſpake to him, as thus: Slade, doe not thus delude the People with plaulible ſpæches, you

are come hither to suffer death for high treason against her Maiestie, you haue ben lawfully & sufficiētly cōuicted therof, & therfore you are brought to endure ỹ punishment that Law hath assigned you. You haue denyed her maiestie to haue any supremacie ouer the Church of Christ in England, both in causes Ecclesiasticall and temporall, which fact is high treason: & therfore you are worthy to suffer death, in that you will not giue her maiestie her dutie and your allegeaunce. Oh Sir William (quoth he) I will giue her maiestie as muche as euer hath bene giuen to any Prince in this Realme, & will shew her as much dutie, as he that is her most obediēt Subiect. That do you not (answered Sir William Kinglmell) for you rob her of her Ecclesiastical and temporal gouernemēt, which all Princes hath enioyed, and you traiterously take frō her: therfore how do you giue her as much as any Prince hath had, and howe doe you showe your selfe a subiect, in this vnnaturall dealing, to preferre a forraine gouernemēt, before your owne lawfull Queene. Sir (sayd Slade

the supremacie hath & doth belong to the Pope by right, euen as from Peter, & the Pope hath receiued it by diuin prouidẽce: therefore we must not giue those thinges belõging to god, to any other then him alone: and because I wil not do otherwise, I may saye with the thræe Children in the firie Ouen, and the first of the Widowes seuen Sonnes in the Maccabees. Parati sumus mori, magis quã patrias Dei leges prævaricari. Then M. Robert White (high Sherife of the Shiere) sayd to him, that he shewed himself very vndutifull to her Maiestie: and therfore willed him to aske her forgiuenes: O Maister Sherif (quoth hee) you knowe if Paule and Peter would haue obeyed their Princes, they had not suffered death. At these words, M. Doctor Bennet, one of the Chaplains to the right honorable the Lord Treasourer, came to him and sayd; Slade, do not abuse the people thus, with these wordes: Paule & Peter were put to death for religion, they were commaunded not to preach in the name of Iesus, are you commaunded any such thing? Oh Sir (answered Slade) I would

wiſh you to behaue your ſelf after ỹ maner of a Trewant, whoſe nature is to forget, and ſo would I haue you forget your wicked life, & begin a new. Slade (ſaid M. Bennet) I come as one that wiſheth well to thy ſoule, thou art now at ỹ pits brink, conſider how highly thou offendeſt God, and likewiſe howe thou haſt trangreſſed againſt her Maieſtie: I delire thee in the bowelles of Chriſt, be not ſo wilfull, loſe not that ſo lightly, which he hath bought with his moſt pretious blood. And if my wordes may not preuaile with thee, yet for ỹ loue of thine owne ſoule, forſake this damnable opiniõ, let not that vnworthie Prieſt be preferred before thine own naturall Princeſſe, who is the lawful ſupreme head of the church, next vnder Chriſt. Thou knoweſt how he hath depriued her of her gouernemẽt by his excõmunicatiõ, & wilt thou be ſo wicked as leane to him and forſake her: Sir (anſwered Slade) you are very buſie in words, if the Pope hath done ſo, I think he hath doue no more thẽ he may, and then he ought to do, for I will acknowledge no other head of the church,

but

but only the Pope, and her Maiestie hath no authoritie in tẽporall cauſes (likewiſe) but only what hee ſhall thinke good to allow her. At theſe words, the people cried, away with the Traitour, hang him, hãg him. Maiſter Sheriſe willed him againe to aſke her Maieſtie forgiuenes. Why ſhould I aſke her forgiuenes (quoth he) wherein haue I offended her? Then M. Bennet deſired him to commend his ſoule to God, and deſire the people to praye for him, but he ſayd, they and hee were not of one faith, & therfore they ſhould not pray for him, & I deſire al bleſſed people (quoth he) to pray for me, and all the Saintes & bleſſed Companie of Heauen. So after he had ſtaied ſo long as it pleaſed himſelf and had mumbled a many latine praiers ſilently to himſelf, he was caſt beſide the ladder, and afterward was cut downe & quartered, according to his Iudgement.

Finis. The

The Execution and

Confeſsion, of another Notorious Traitour, named Iohn Bodye (ſomtime a maiſter of Arte in Oxeforde) who was likewiſe (for high treaſon againſt her Maieſtie) drawen, hangd and quartered at Andouer, on Saturday, the. 2. of Nouember. 1583.

IOhn Body, a Maſter of Art (ſomtime in Oxford, & companion to this Slade) was caried from Wincheſter to Andouer, a towne ten miles from Wincheſter, where the Aſſiſes were holden, & where they were condemned. There was he on the Saturday following, drawen on a Hurdell to the place of execution, and being layd on the Hurdell, he ſpake thus. O ſweete Bed, the happieſt Bed that euer man laye in, thou

art

art welcome to me. Then being take frō the Hurdell, hæ spake to maister Sherife, as concerning a disputation which had passed betweene him & Doctor Humfrey, about Constantine th'emperour, & he had written in a sheet of paper certaine Articles, in answere to Doctor Hūfrey, which he wold haue read before ỹ people, but because ỹ time was short, he could not read them, but gaue them to M. high Sherife, that Doctor Humfrey might sæ thē. When ỹ Hangmā put the halter about his neck, he sayde: Oh blessed Chaine, the sweetest Chaine, and richest that euer came about any mans neck, and so kissing it, he suffered the haugman to put it about his neck. There was also present Maister Bennet, who laboured very Godly and earnestly to dissuade him from his euill opintō, but all was in vaine, he was so obstinat and wilfull. Hæ likewise appealed vpon his faith (which he said) was the cause of his death: but S. William Kingsmel, tould him, he died for high treason against her Maiestie, wherof he had bæne sufficientiy conuicted. Indæde (quoth he) I haue ben sufficiently

tiently conuicted, for I haue ben condēned twice, & you may make the hearing of a blessed Masse treason, or the saying of an Aue Maria, treason, you may make what you please, treason: but, I haue cōmitted no treason, although indæde, I suffer the punishmēt due to treason. Why (quod M. high Sherife) you know ỹ Pope hath excōmunicated her Maiestie, & you forsake her & cleaue to him: what say you to this: you denie her, her speciall authoritie, and will not acknowledge her for your lawful Quæne. Yes (quod he) in those causes that pertain vnto her, I acknowledge her my lawfull Souereigne & Quæne: but for ỹ speciall cause, I will abyde a thousand deaths before I cōsent to it: & if the Pope haue done well, let him answere it, if he haue done ill, let him likewise answere it: I acknowledge her my lawfull Quæne in all temporall causes, and none other: You shall do well thē (said S. William Kingsmell) to satisfie the people in the cause of your death, because (otherwise) they may be deluded by your faire speeches. You shal vnderstād (quoth he) good people all, ỹ I suffer death for not graunting her M.

to be supreme head of Christes Church in Englande, which I may not, and will not graunt. Well thē, quoth Maister Sherife. aske her maiestie forgiuenes, & then desire the People to praye for you. In troth quoth he, I must nedes aske her Maiestie forgiuenes, for I haue offended her many wayes, as in vsing vnlawfull games, excesse of apparel, and other offences to her lawes: but in this matter you shal pardō me. And (for the People) because they & I are differēt in religion, I will not haue thē praye for me: But I pray God long to preserue her Maiestie in trāquility ouer you, euen Queene Elizabeth, your Queene and mine, and I desire you to obey none other. At length, saying: Iesu, Iesu, esto mihi Iesu, three times, her was put beside the ladder, and quartered, according to his iudgment.

FINIS.

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